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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

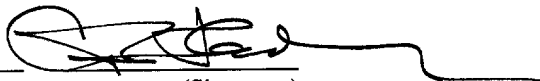


Applicant : Reto SIEBER et al.
Serial No. : 09/911,142
Filed : July 23, 2001
For : ASSEMBLY ADHESIVE TAPE FOR THE
IMPROVED SEALING OF JOINTS AND A
DISPENSER FOR THE ASSEMBLY ADHESIVE
TAPE
Group Art Unit : Not yet known
Examiner : Not yet known

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8

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C. Bruce Hamburg
(Name)


(Signature)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 1, 3-6 and 8-15 as follows, the amendments being shown by brackets and underscoring in the Appendix hereto:

1. (Amended) A pressure-sensitive tape for closing, sealing or gluing joints in house construction, including joints in corners and edges, comprising a backing layer, an adhesive layer supported by the backing layer, and a peelable protective film resting on the adhesive layer, wherein the protective film has at least one slit in a longitudinal direction and the tape is folded upon itself in a transverse direction along the slit in such a manner that at least a portion of the protective film is disposed on the outside and that at least a lateral longitudinal section is provided, said section being perforated.

3. (Amended) The tape of claim 1 or 2, wherein the backing comprises paper and/or a plastic film and the adhesive layer is a pressure-sensitive acrylate adhesive.

4. (Amended) The tape of claim 1 or 2, wherein the backing is hand tearable transversely to the longitudinal direction of the tape.

5. (Amended) The tape of claim 1 or 2, wherein the adhesive layer has a non-adhering central strip and the protective film is slit along a line between the non-adhering central strip and the adjoining adhesive layer and is folded along the line.

6. (Amended) The tape of claim 1 or 2, wherein said folded tape is in the form of a roll.

8. (Amended) The combination of the tape of claim 6 and a dispenser, the dispenser storing the tape and being adapted for unrolling of the tape therefrom thereby to dispense the tape.

9. (Amended) The combination of claim 8, wherein means are provided at least at the folded side of the tape for preventing adhesion to the dispenser.

10. (Amended) The tape of claim 1 or 2, wherein the tape is at least 3 to 4 cm wide when not folded.

11. (Amended) The tape of claim 1 or 2, wherein two lateral longitudinal sections, which are perforated, are provided.

12. (Amended) The tape of claim 1 or 2, wherein a non-adhering central strip is provided and the perforated longitudinal section is at a distance from the central strip.

13. (Amended) The tape of claim 1 or 2, wherein the backing, the adhesive layer and the protective film are perforated.

14. (Amended) The tape of claim 1 or 2, wherein the backing consists of an open-pored material which exhibits good adhesion properties for plaster.

15. (Amended) The tape of claim 1 or 2, wherein the perforated section has openings with an average diameter of at least 3 millimeters.

17. (Amended) The combination of claim 8, wherein the dispenser has at least one outlet slot for the tape.

18. (Amended) The combination of claim 8, wherein the dispenser is comprised of cardboard.

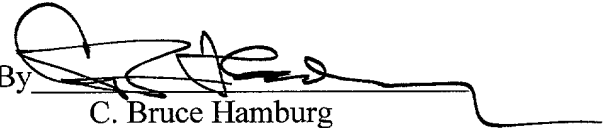
REMARKS

The amendments deal merely with formalities, including the elimination of improper multiple dependencies, to place the application in better condition for examination.

Please charge the government fee of \$280.00 for having multiple dependent claims and the government fee of \$252.00 for having fourteen additional claims in excess of twenty to Deposit Account No. 10-1250. Also, charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX I

AMENDED CLAIMS WITH AMENDMENTS INDICATED THEREIN
BY BRACKETS AND UNDERLINING

1. (Amended) A pressure-sensitive tape for closing, sealing [and] or gluing joints in house construction, [particularly] including joints in corners and edges, [with] comprising a backing layer [on the upper side of the tape and], an adhesive layer[, which is on the underside of the tape] supported by the backing layer, and [provided with] a peelable protective film resting on the adhesive layer, wherein the protective film has at least one slit in [the] a longitudinal direction and the tape is folded upon itself in [the] a transverse direction along the slit in such a manner[,] that at least a portion of the protective film is disposed on the outside and that at least a lateral longitudinal section is provided, [which is] said section being perforated.

3. (Amended) The tape of [claims] claim 1 or 2, wherein the backing [consists of] comprises paper and/or a plastic film and the adhesive layer is a pressure-sensitive acrylate adhesive.

4. (Amended) The tape of [one of the preceding claims] claim 1 or 2, wherein the backing is [such, that it can be torn by] hand tearable transversely to the longitudinal direction of the tape.

5. (Amended) The tape of [one of the preceding claims] claim 1 or 2, wherein the adhesive layer has a non-adhering central strip and the protective film is slit along a line between the non-adhering central strip and the adjoining adhesive layer and is folded along the line.

6. (Amended) The tape of [one of the preceding claims] claim 1 or 2, wherein [the] said folded tape[, in a folded state, is rolled up into] is in the form of a roll [of adhesive tape].

8. (Amended) The combination of the tape of [one of the preceding claims, wherein the tape is rolled up on a matching unrolling device, from which it can be unrolled once again] claim 6 and a dispenser, the dispenser storing the tape and being adapted for unrolling of the tape therefrom thereby to dispense the tape.

9. (Amended) The [tape] combination of claim 8, wherein means are provided at least at the folded side of the tape for preventing adhesion to the [unrolling device] dispenser.

10. (Amended) The tape of [one of the preceding claims] claim 1 or 2, wherein the tape is at least 3 to 4 cm wide [in the] when not folded [state].

11. (Amended) The tape of [one of the preceding claims] claim 1 or 2, wherein two lateral longitudinal sections, which are perforated, are provided [in each case at side regions].

12. (Amended) The tape of [one of the preceding claims] claim 1 or 2, wherein a non-adhering central strip is provided and the perforated longitudinal section is at a distance from the central strip.

13. (Amended) The tape of [one of the preceding claims] claim 1 or 2, wherein the backing, the adhesive layer and the protective film[, which can be pulled off,] are perforated.

14. (Amended) The tape of [one of the preceding claims] claim 1 or 2, wherein the backing consists of [a material, particularly of] an open-pored material[,] which exhibits good adhesion properties for plaster.

15. (Amended) The tape of [one of the preceding claims] claim 1 or 2, wherein the perforated section has openings with an average diameter of at least 3 millimeters.

17. (Amended) [A] The combination of claim 8, wherein the dispenser [for a rolled-up pressure-sensitive tape of one of the claims 1 to 16, which essentially surrounds the roll of adhesive tape and] has at least one outlet slot for the tape.

18. (Amended) The combination of claim 8, wherein the dispenser [of claim 17, wherein] is comprised of cardboard [is used as material].